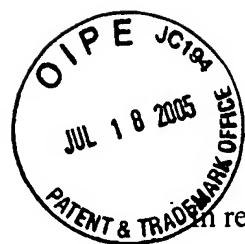


DFW



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:  
Bruno De Man

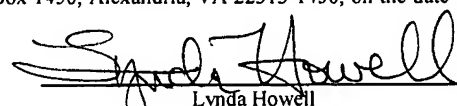
Serial No.: 10/731,356

Filed: December 9, 2003

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR  
THE REDUCTION OF ARTIFACTS  
IN COMPUTED TOMOGRAPHY  
IMAGES

§  
§ Group Art Unit: 2123  
§  
§  
§ Examiner: Unassigned  
§  
§  
§ Atty. Docket: 133642-1/YOD  
§ GERD:0068  
§  
§

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

| CERTIFICATE OF MAILING<br>37 C.F.R. 1.8  |   |
|--|---|
| I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Amendment, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date below: |   |
| July 14, 2005<br>Date  | <br>Lynda Howell |

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97(b) AND 1.98**

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(a), it is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement be entered and that the listed references be considered by the Examiner and made of record. Applicants note that, due to recent amendments to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a), copies of the listed domestic references are no longer required to be submitted to the Examiner.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, this Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made, as an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b), or as a representation that no other possibly material information, as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b), exists.

Furthermore, the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08A Form and PTO/SB/08B are not to be construed as an admission that these references qualify as prior art as to the above-referenced application or any related application. Rather, these references are being presented for the Examiner's consideration without prejudice to the right to demonstrate that any of these references do not qualify as prior art should the Examiner choose to apply any of these references.

The following information is listed below in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98. Any explanation of non-English language documents contained in this Information Disclosure Statement is believed to constitute a concise explanation of the relevance of the listed reference as it is presently understood by the individual designated in § 1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the content of the listed reference, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3).

Applicants believe this Information Disclosure Statement is properly filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). Consequently, no fee is believed due with this Information Disclosure Statement. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any requisite fee for this Information Disclosure Statement, and any additional fee which may be required, to Deposit Account No. 07-0868; Order No. 133642-1/YOD (GERD:0068).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 7/14/2005

29  
Patrick S. Yoder  
Reg. No. 37,479  
FLETCHER YODER  
P.O. Box 692289  
Houston, TX 77269-2289  
(281) 970-4545

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

*(Use as many sheets as necessary)*

|       |   |    |   |
|-------|---|----|---|
| Sheet | 1 | of | 2 |
|-------|---|----|---|

**Complete if Known**

|                        |                          |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Application Number     | 10/731,356               |
| Filing Date            | December 9, 2003         |
| First Named Inventor   | Bruno De Man             |
| Art Unit               | 2123                     |
| Examiner Name          | Unassigned               |
| Attorney Docket Number | 133642-1/YOD (GERD:0068) |

## U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

|                       |  |                    |  |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| Examiner<br>Signature |  | Date<br>Considered |  |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>4</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>5</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>6</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

*If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.*

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

**Complete if Known**

|       |   |    |   |                        |                          |
|-------|---|----|---|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Sheet | 2 | of | 2 | Application Number     | 10/731,356               |
|       |   |    |   | Filing Date            | December 9, 2003         |
|       |   |    |   | First Named Inventor   | Bruno De Man             |
|       |   |    |   | Art Unit               | 2123                     |
|       |   |    |   | Examiner Name          | Unassigned               |
|       |   |    |   | Attorney Docket Number | 133642-1/YOD (GERD:0068) |

**NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T <sup>2</sup> |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---|----------------|
|                    | A                     | J.F. Williamson, et al, "Prospects for Quantitative Computed Tomography Imaging in the presence of Foreign Metal Bodies using Statistical Image Reconstruction", Med. Phys., Vol. 29, No. 10, pp.2404-2   |                |
|                    | B                     | G. Wang, et al, "A fast algorithm for metal artifact reduction in X-ray CT", Academic Radiology, pp. 7:607-614, 2000  |                |
|                    | C                     | B. De. Man, "Iterative Reconstruction for Reduction of Metal Artifacts in Computed Tomography", PhD Thesis, University of Leuven, 2001  |                |
|                    | D                     | W.A. Kalender, et al, "Reduction of CT Artifacts caused by Metallic Implants", Radiology, pp. 576-577, August 1987  |                |
|                    |                       |   |                |
|                    |                       |   |                |
|                    |                       |   |                |
|                    |                       |   |                |
|                    |                       |   |                |
|                    |                       |   |                |
|                    |                       |   |                |

|                    |  |                 |  |
|--------------------|--|-----------------|--|
| Examiner Signature |  | Date Considered |  |
|--------------------|--|-----------------|--|

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.